TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
50 F Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001
(202) 639-2555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, April 19, 1990 -- Carloadings originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended April 14 totaled 340,524, down 4.4 percent from the comparable week of 1989 but 0.7 percent above the preceding week of 1990, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were down 6.0 percent in the East and 2.5 percent in the West, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1989 week, coal loadings were up 8,188 cars (6.4 percent). Loadings of motor vehicles and equipment decreased by 6,598 cars (29.3 percent). Grain loadings were down 4,072 cars (13.1 percent), while loadings of metallic ores fell by 2,910 cars (13.6 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 15 weeks of 1990 totaled 5,051,806, up 0.6 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 112,638 trailers and/or containers for the week ended April 14, down 1.6 percent from the comparable week of 1989.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 15 weeks of 1990 was 1,746,347 trailers and/or containers, 3.6 percent above the comparable 1989 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended April 14 totaled 19.8 billion, down 2.0 percent from the comparable week of 1989. Cumulative volume for the first 15 weeks of 1990 was an estimated 293.5 billion ton-miles, up 1.4 percent from the comparable period of last year.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 14, 1990

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING APRIL 14, 1990	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1989	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	27,031	31,103	-13.1 %	28,840	-6.3 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,666	2,395	-30.4	1,808	-7.9
Metallic Ores	18,537	21,447	-13.6	17,164	8.0
Coal	136,616	128,428	6.4	125,986	8.4
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	13,979	15,428	-9.4	14,575	-4.1
Nonmetallic Minerals	9,545	9,898	-3.6	9,986	-4.4
Grain Mill Products	9,754	10,256	-4.9	10,169	-4.1
Food & Kindred Products	8,211	8,542	-3.9	8,614	-4.7
Primary Forest Products	9,799	10,770	-9.0	9,856	-.6
Lumber & Wood Products	6,743	7,021	-4.0	6,616	1.9
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,595	10,648	-.5	10,487	1.0
Chemicals	28,289	29,338	-3.6	29,281	-3.4
Petroleum Products	4,668	5,061	-7.8	4,941	-5.5
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	9,786	10,619	-7.8	10,133	-3.4
Coke	5,902	6,127	-3.7	6,380	-7.5
Metals & Products	8,880	9,979	-11.0	9,529	-6.8
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	15,952	22,550	-29.3	18,021	-11.5
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,571	9,513	-9.9	8,674	-1.2
All Other Carloads	6,000	7,048	-14.9	7,160	-16.2
Total	340,524	356,171	-4.4 %	338,220	.7 %

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING APRIL 14, 1990 1990	1989	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 15 WEEKS ENDING APRIL 14, 1990 1990	1989	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	340,524	356,171	-4.4 %	5,051,806	5,020,255	.6 %
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	63,563	66,695	-4.7	989,219	978,667	1.1
Containers	49,075	47,729	2.8	757,128	706,715	7.1
Total	112,638	114,424	-1.6	1,746,347	1,685,382	3.6
Estimated Ton-Miles Class I Railroads (Billions)	19.8	20.2	-2.0 %	293.5 r	289.4	1.4 %

NOTE: Effective with Week 13, Southern Pacific figures include the SSW and DRGW. SP's traffic for prior weeks has been restated to exclude traffic interchanged among these roads.

r Cumulative 1990 ton-miles revised to reflect corrections to carloadings for Weeks 1-12, 1990.